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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7232

BILL NUMBER: SB 297

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 4, 2007

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Election Day Voter Registration.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Lanane

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill permits a voter to register at the polls by completing a voter registration form and an affirmation that the person has not voted elsewhere in the election and by providing proof of residence. The bill specifies the documents acceptable as proof of residence, including a statement signed by another voter in the precinct that corroborates the residency of the person registering to vote. The bill requires that voter registration forms executed at the polls be processed in the same manner as other registrations.

Effective Date: January 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* The Election Commission would be required to prescribe a form for an affirmation statement that a person registering to vote on election day at a precinct had not voted elsewhere on election day. Additionally, the Election Division would be required to prescribe a standardized coding system to classify day-of-election registration documents to be placed in the county voter registration system. These provisions would have a minimal impact on the Commission's and the Division's expenditures.

Background- The Indiana Election Commission, under which the Election Division operates, reverted \$55,072 back to the General Fund at the end of FY 2006. The Election Division had printing costs of about \$23,116 in FY 2006. The Division had 11 full-time employees and three vacancies as of October 3, 2006.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary:* Under the bill, county election boards and precinct election

boards would have several additional responsibilities that would increase the administrative time necessary to ensure persons that registered on the day of election were able to vote.

Additionally, counties would need to provide precincts with enough registration forms, affirmation forms, regular ballots (in optical scan counties), and provisional ballots in order to meet the potential demand of day-of-election registration and voting. This condition may require additional optical scan ballots to be purchased in future elections. Direct recording electronic voting system counties would require minimal additional expenditure with respect to regular ballots.

Ballot cost- Optical scan ballot costs depend on the contract in place between the county and vendor. As an example, Marion County, which is the largest county using optical scan with approximately 600,000 ballots produced, had a ballot cost of \$0.32 per ballot, for the 2006 general election.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Election Commission; Indiana Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: County election boards; Precinct election boards.

Information Sources: Indiana State Budget Agency: FY 2006 Close-Out General Fund Reversion Summary; State of Indiana Detail Staffing Report, 10/03/2006; Jennifer Handlon, City of Indianapolis, Marion County Election Board, 327-5100.

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